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PAKISTAN-CHINA: A HIGH-LEVEL PAKISTANI DELE-GATION IS SLATED TO ARRIVE IN PEKING TODAY, APPAR-ENTLY SEEKING FURTHER ASSURANCE OF CHINESE BACKING.

PAKISTANI FOREIGN SECRETARY SULTAN KHAN INFORMED THE US AMBASSADOR ON 3 NOVEMBER THAT THE
FORTHCOMING VISIT TO PEKING WOULD PERMIT CONTINUED
CONTACT WITH THE CHINESE ON BOTH MILITARY AND POLITICAL MATTERS BUT WAS DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO BOOST
MORALE IN PAKISTAN.

THE FOREIGN SECRETARY MADE IT
CLEAR THAT ISLAMABAD ALSO HOPED TO SECURE FROM THE
CHINESE A NEW PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, ALTHOUGH
HE ADMITTED THAT REITERATION OF PREVIOUS STATEMENTS
WOULD BE ALL THE PAKISTANIS COULD REALLY EXPECT.

THE AMBASSADOR WAS REQUESTED TO PASS THE INFORMATION REGARDING THE TRIP TO WASHINGTON SO THAT
PRIME MINISTER GANDHI COULD BE ''REASSURED'' AS TO
THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT TO PEKING PRIOR TO RELEASE
OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE PRESS. SULTAN KHAN ALSO
INDICATED THAT HE HOPED TO VISIT WASHINGTON ON OR
ABOUT 11 NOVEMBER TO BRIEF US OFFICIALS ON THE RESULTS OF HIS TRIP TO PEKING AND TO SECURE INFORMATION, BOTH ''FACTS AND NUANCES,'' REGARDING MRSGANDHI'S VISIT TO THE US.

THE PAKISTANI DECISION TO SEND A HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION TO PEKING SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH MRS. GANDHI'S TRIP TO WASHINGTON AND IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW-ING VISITS BY SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIALS TO NEW DELHI MAY WELL BE CONCERNED PRIMARILY WITH AIDING MORALE IN A WEST PAKISTAN POPULATION THAT SEES ITSELF INCREASINGLY ISOLATED. THE ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN A STRONG PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR ISLAMABAD--EVEN A REITERATION OF PREVIOUS STATEMENTS--COULD WELL BE FRUITLESS, HOWEVER

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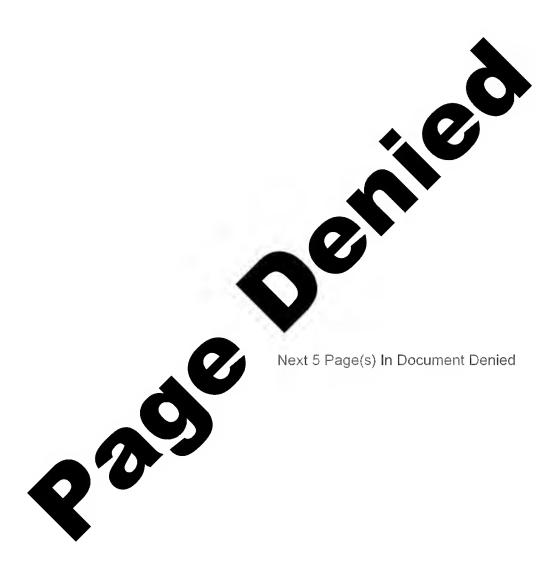
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